IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KURODA et al

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HOLLOW NANOPARTICLES HAVING MODIFIED

CYSTEINE RESIDUE, AND DRUG USING THE HOLLOW

NANOPARTICLES

December 28, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows: